## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

Victor M. Kern Construction Co.,

Plaintiff,

v.

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER Civil No. 11-124 (MJD/LIB)

H. Michael Carr, Stephen Young, Michael D. Carr, Lane D. Waldahl, County Commissioner, William Stearns, County Commissioner, Ralph Miller, County Commissioner, Bruce Uselman, William Cross, Jeffrey D. Pederson, Orville Meyer, County Commissioner, Rodney Bounds, County Commissioner, Jeffrey Jares, Cory Carr, Bryan Savoloja, and Thomas Speed,

Defendants.

Plaintiff is  $pro se^1$ .

Jon K. Iverson and Amanda L. Stubson, Iverson Ruevers, Counsel for Defendants.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Court notes that the named plaintiff is a corporation. Victor Kern, as a layman, cannot represent the corporation. <u>Osborn v. Bank of the United States</u>, 22 U.S. 738, 830 (1824). "The corporation must be represented by counsel 'regardless of whether the person seeking to represent the corporation is a director, officer or shareholder.'" <u>Ebersen, Inc. v. City of Minneapolis</u>, Civ. No. 03-6482 (RHK/AJB), 2004 WL 483165 at \*1 (D. Minn. Mar. 11, 2004)(quoting <u>Nicollet Restoration, Inc. v. Turnham</u>, 486 N.W.2d 753, 754 (Minn.1992)).

Plaintiff Victor M. Kern Construction Co. ("Kern") brought this action against Defendants alleging a variety of constitutional violations. Defendants move to dismiss this action as it was improperly served pursuant to Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Defendants further move to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12 (b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as Plaintiff has failed to state a claim for relief.

## Standard for Dismissal Under Rule 12

Under Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a party may move the Court to dismiss a claim if, on the pleadings, a party has failed to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. In reviewing a motion to dismiss, the Court takes all facts alleged in the complaint to be true. <u>Zutz v. Nelson</u>, 601 F.3d 842, 848 (8th Cir. 2010).

To survive a motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face. Thus, although a complaint need not include detailed factual allegations, a plaintiff's obligation to provide the grounds of his entitlement to relief requires more than labels and conclusions, and a formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not do.

<u>Id.</u> (citations omitted).

## **Analysis**

The complaint is largely incomprehensible. The only discernable facts alleged that could potentially relate to a claim are that a 1996 Ford half-ton truck belonging to Kern was damaged on October 31, 2008 while in the possession of the sheriff's department. (Complaint ¶ 3.) A 1953 Chevrolet was subject to forfeiture and impounded on July 7, 2010. (Id.) The complaint also includes general allegations of government corruption, false police reports and phony search warrants. There are also allegations concerning a patent owned by Kern and lost profits from such patent because it was tampered with. (Id. ¶ 1.) The complaint also includes allegations that Defendants Bryan Savaloja and William Cross illegally searched his residence.

The named Defendants are or were Wadena County officials or employees. Michael D. Carr is the Wadena County Sheriff; H. Michael Carr is the Former Wadena Sheriff; William Cross is the Current Chief Deputy Sheriff; Steven Young is a Former Chief Deputy Sheriff; Lane D. Waldahl, William Stearns, Ralph Miller, Orville Meyer and Rodney Bounds are Wadena County Commissioners; Bryan Savaloja is a Wadena County Sheriff's Deputy and Thomas Speed is the Wadena County Jail Administrator. Bruce Uselman is the Chief of Police for the

City of Wadena; Cory Carr is the Chief of Police for the City of Verndale and is a Wadena County Sheriff's Deputy; and Jeffrey Jares is the Former Police Chief for the City of Verndale.

Defendants first assert that although included in the caption, Defendants
Orville Meyer, Rodney Bounds, Jeffrey Jares, Cory Carr and Jeffrey Pederson are
nowhere mentioned in the body of the complaint. The Court agrees that Kern
has failed to state a claim against these Defendants.

As to the remaining Defendants, the Court finds that all claims must be dismissed as Kern has merely alleged legal conclusions without any factual support. For example, Kern asserts that his patent was tampered with and as a result he as suffered lost profits, but includes no facts to support assertion. The same is true for the purported Fourth Amendment violations, and § 1983 claims. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion to Dismiss for Failure

to State a Claim under Rule 12(b)(6) [Doc. No. 14] is GRANTED. This action is hereby dismissed with prejudice.

## LET JUDGMENT BE ENTERED ACCORDINGLY

Date: July 1, 2011

s/ Michael J. Davis
Michael J. Davis
Chief Judge
United States District Court